## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

- 1. (Previously Presented) A microporous PTFE membrane comprising:
- a first surface and a second surface and a thickness and bulk defined by the first and second surfaces, the microporous PTFE membrane modified by subjecting the microporous PTFE membrane to non-coherent broadband UV irradiation while pores of the membrane are impregnated with a liquid, the membrane having a critical wetting surface tension (CWST) of at least about 40 dynes/cm (.40 erg/mm²) through the thickness and bulk of the microporous PTFE membrane, a wetting/dewetting ratio of at least about .7 for 2 or more cycles, and wherein the first and second surfaces each have a fluorine/carbon (F/C) ratio of about 1.2 or more and an oxygen/carbon (O/C) ratio in the range of from about 0.01 to about 0.15.
- 2. (Previously Presented) The microporous PTFE membrane according to claim 1 having a low level of extractables.
  - 3. (Cancelled)
- 4. (Previously Presented) The microporous PTFE membrane of claim 6, having a CWST of at least about 40 dynes/cm (.40 erg/mm<sup>2</sup>).
- 5. (Previously Presented) The microporous PTFE membrane of claim 1, having a water bubble point of at least about 33 psi.
  - 6. (Previously Presented) A microporous PTFE membrane comprising:
- a first surface and a second surface and a thickness defined by the first and second surfaces, the microporous PTFE membrane modified by subjecting the microporous PTFE membrane to non-coherent broadband UV irradiation while pores of the membrane are impregnated with a liquid, the membrane having a CWST of at least 26 dynes/cm (.26 erg/mm<sup>2</sup>) through the thickness and bulk of the microporous PTFE membrane, and a wetting/dewetting ratio of at least about .7 for 2 or more cycles, wherein the microporous

PTFE membrane is free of a coating and wherein the first and second surfaces each have a fluorine/carbon (F/C) ratio of about 1.2 or more and an oxygen/carbon (O/C) ratio in the range of from about 0.01 to about 0.15.

- 7. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, having a nominal pore size in the range of from about 0.02 to about 0.1 microns.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, having a CWST of at least about 45 dynes/cm (.45 erg/mm<sup>2</sup>) through the thickness of the membrane.
- 9. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 8, having a CWST of at least about 58 dynes/cm (.58 erg/mm<sup>2</sup>).
- 10. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 2, having a water bubble point of at least about 45 psi (about 310 kPa).
- 11. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 6, having a water bubble point of at least about 75 psi (about 516.8 kPa).
  - 12. (Cancelled)
  - 13. (Cancelled)
- 14. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, which resists dewetting when contacted with hot water as a degassing fluid.
  - 15. (Cancelled)
- 16. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 2, having less than about 100 ppb extractable matter.

- 17. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 2, having less than about 30 ppb metal extractable matter.
- 18. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 6, having less than about 15 ppb metal extractable matter.

## 19.-31. (Cancelled)

- 32. (Previously Presented) A process for treating a fluid comprising contacting the membrane claim 1 with the fluid for treating and recovering the treated fluid.
- 33. (Original) The process of claim 32, wherein the fluid for treating is a degassing fluid.
- 34. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, wherein the membrane is free of a coating.
- 35. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, modified by subjecting the membrane to non-coherent broadband UV irradiation while pores of the membrane are impregnated with a liquid selected from the group consisting of water, alcohols, hydrogen peroxide, sodium sulfite, ammonium sulfate, ammonium sulfite, sodium aluminate, copper sulfate, boric acid, hydrochloric acid, and nitric acid.
- 36. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 6, modified by subjecting the membrane to non-coherent broadband UV irradiation while pores of the membrane are impregnated with a liquid selected from the group consisting of water, alcohols, hydrogen peroxide, sodium sulfite, ammonium sulfate, ammonium sulfite, sodium aluminate, copper sulfate, boric acid, hydrochloric acid, and nitric acid.
- 37. (New) The PTFE membrane of claim 6, having a CWST of at least about 30 dynes/cm (.30 erg/mm<sup>2</sup>) through the thickness and bulk of the membrane.

- 38. (New) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, wherein the surfaces each have an F/C ratio of at least about 1.5.
- 39. (New) The PTFE membrane of claim 6, wherein the surfaces each have an F/C ratio of at least about 1.5.
- 40. (New) The PTFE membrane of claim 37, wherein the surfaces each have an F/C ratio of at least about 1.5.
- 41. (New) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, having a zeta potential in the range of from about -3 mV to about 11 mV at a pH in the range of from about 4 to about 9.
- 42. (New) The PTFE membrane of claim 6, having a zeta potential in the range of from about -3 mV to about 11 mV at a pH in the range of from about 4 to about 9.
- 43. (New) The PTFE membrane of claim 37, having a zeta potential in the range of from about -3 mV to about -11 mV at a pH in the range of from about 4 to about 9.
- 44. (New) The PTFE membrane of claim 38, having a zeta potential in the range of from about -3 mV to about -11 mV at a pH in the range of from about 4 to about 9.
- 45. (New) The PTFE membrane of claim 39, having a zeta potential in the range of from about -3 mV to about 11 mV at a pH in the range of from about 4 to about 9.
- 46. (New) The PTFE membrane of claim 40, having a zeta potential in the range of from about -3 mV to about 11 mV at a pH in the range of from about 4 to about 9.